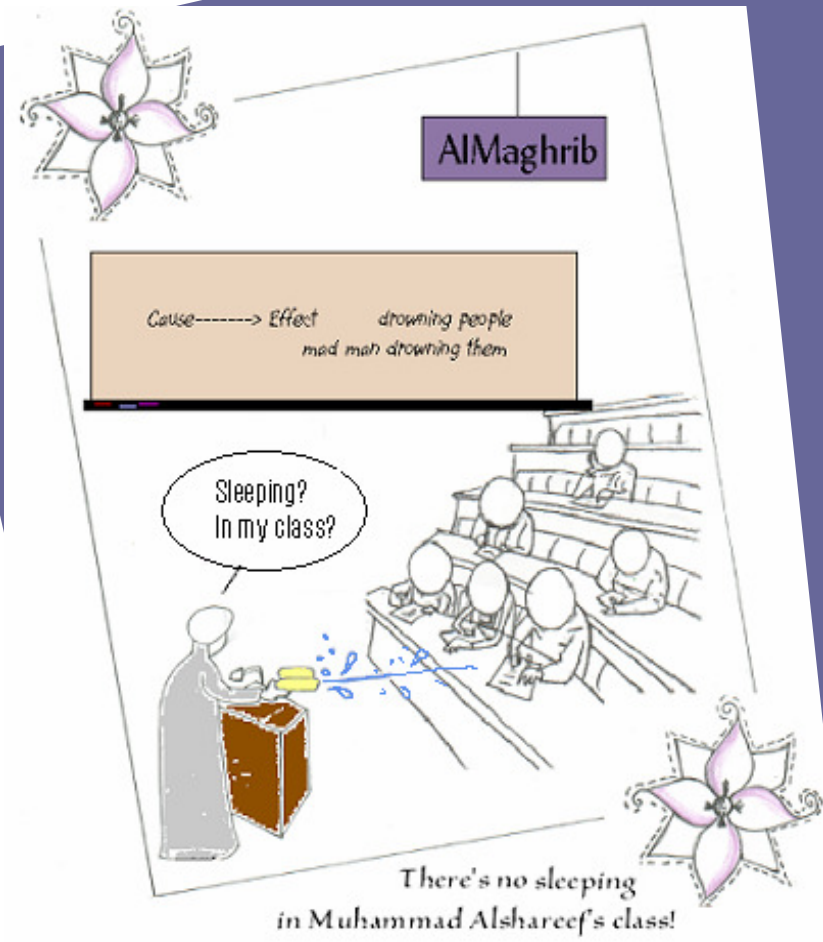
There's no *sleeping* in Muhammad Alshareef's class!



By Thana Numan, Illustration by Amna Fiaz

An Interview with
Sheikh Muhammad Alshareef

We realize the great difference we can make even as individuals when we look at teachers such as Muhammad Alshareef, who is the founder of AlMaghrib Institute.

He has successfully motivated hundreds of students to appreciate and understand the importance of knowledge in Islam, and to convey the knowledge to others.

Q. what motivated you to start almaghrib and did you ever imagine it would come this far?

Knowledge of our deen should not stay with one person, but should always be conveyed to others, which I always wanted to do first through a night school and eventually started AlMaghrib instead. AlMaghrib has not come as far as I wanted it to. I envision bigger and better goals for AlMaghrib, like opening classes in fifteen countries around the world with the best Islamic degree available for working Muslims who do not have to stop their jobs.

Q. what was the hardest part of establishing almaghrib institute?

Getting the Muslims to honor studying Islam and convincing them that it is the best thing they could do in their life was the hardest part. Knowledge of Islam is often taken for granted because of culture and society.

Q. is this the last time the code of the scholars class will be taught? why?

The Code of the Scholars class was the second class that AlMaghrib started and I would rather teach some of the newer classes that are on the curriculum to the cities that haven't had them yet. The older classes will be reproduced again after all of the classes have been taught.

Q. tell us a little bit about your side business and how you started it?

I have always had an enjoyment to help people to do something great and my Peek Performance business helps people that want to accomplish a project goal that would take a longer period of time, and I would help them with the drive and motivation to accomplish it in a much shorter period of time.

Q. what are your best memories from studying in saudi arabia?

Memories of i'tikaaf at the ka'bah are some of the best memories I have because of the intimate feeling with the surroundings of the ka'bah. This is an experience that I wish everyone could have a chance to do. Other good memories I have are the opportunity to visit Masjid Al-Aqsa in Jerusalem with some of my classmates.

Q. do you have any recommended resources for the student of knowledge?

The student of knowledge should memorize the Qur'an, because its benefits to a person are fundamental.

Q. what did you enjoy most about qabeelat ittihaad and what do you think they should improve on?

Qabeelat Ittihaad is the second strongest qabeelah in Canada so far. I feel the brother/sisterhood between the students, and that they have worked very hard. As a teacher I feel blessed to teach a class in Windsor, **but the students should also stop sleeping in class, become more studious, and not fall into stagnation.**